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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/736,543	12/13/2000	Cung Ngoc Phan	M61.12-0298	8316
27366 7590 06/04/2008 WESTMAN CHAMPLIN (MICROSOFT CORPORATION) SUITE 1400 900 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-3244				
EXAMINER				
ELISCA, PIERRE E				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3621				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/736,543

Applicant(s)

PHAN, CUNG NGOC

Examiner

Pierre E. Elisca

Art Unit

3621

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 March 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 20-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 20-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to Applicant's amendment filed on 03/03/2008.
2. Claims 20-39 remain pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 20-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Sleeper (U.S. Pat. No. 6,401,074) and Agarwal et al (U.S. pat. No. 6,314,466) in view of Grant et al (U.S. Pat. No. 4,660,168).

As per claims 20-30 Sleeper substantially discloses an augmented point of sale system that displays, and that may broadcast, during a retail transaction, promotional information to a customer selected on the basis of the context of the transaction, comprising:

A control unit configured to operate at least a customer display device and configured to receive input data related to a sales transaction from at least one of a plurality of input devices, a point-of-sale program module coupled to the control unit and configured to process the input data by accessing a point-of-sale database, a customer display

program module coupled to the control unit and the point-of-sale program module, the customer display program module configured to display the processed input data on the customer display device, and wherein the control unit is coupled to the customer display program module and includes an internal timer (see., abstract, col 1-col 6).

Sleeper fails to explicitly disclose the claimed limitation wherein said a sequence of multimedia entries of which the customer display program. However, Agarwal discloses a system/method for providing random access to a multimedia object over a network. The multimedia object comprises a multimedia file having a sequence of segments, and a table having an entry for each of a plurality of said segments (see., abstract, col 1-col 8). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add the limitation detailed above as taught by Agarwal into the system of Sleeper because this would ensure a smooth, uninterrupted playback sequence of data.

Sleeper and Argawal fail to disclose Applicant's newly added limitation wherein said a trigger event occur that interrupts the sequence or multimedia entries. Grant discloses a customer initiated ATM transaction which includes a CPU 52, a timer 148, and a trigger event (see., fig 4, col 9, lines 59-69, col 10, lines 1-21, and for the trigger event, see fig 9, col 18, lines 35-58). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add the limitation detailed above as taught by Grant into the systems of Sleeper and Argawal because that would interrupt playback sequence of data in the event of failure or malfunction.

As per claims 31-39 Sleeper substantially discloses an augmented point of sale system that displays, and that may broadcast, during a retail transaction, promotional information to a customer selected on the basis of the context of the transaction, the method comprising:

A control unit configured to operate at least a customer display device and configured to receive input data related to a sales transaction from at least one of a plurality of input devices, a point-of-sale program module coupled to the control unit and configured to process the input data by accessing a point-of-sale database, a customer display program module coupled to the control unit and the point-of-sale program module, the customer display program module configured to display the processed input data on the customer display device, and wherein the control unit is coupled to the customer display program module and includes an internal timer (see., abstract, col 1-col 6).

Sleeper fails to explicitly disclose the claimed limitation wherein said a sequence of multimedia entries of which the customer display program. However, Agarwal discloses a system/method for providing random access to a multimedia object over a network.

The multimedia object comprises a multimedia file having a sequence of segments, and a table having an entry for each of a plurality of said segments (see., abstract, col 1-col 8). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add the limitation detailed above as taught by Agarwal into the system of Sleeper because this would ensure a smooth, uninterrupted playback sequence of data.

Sleeper and Argawal fail to disclose the limitation wherein said a trigger event occur that interrupts the sequence or multimedia entries and prompts a change in content of the multimedia entries on the customer display device. Grant discloses a customer initiated ATM transaction which includes a CPU 52, a timer 148, and a trigger event (see., fig 4, col 9, lines 59-69, col 10, lines 1-21, **and for the trigger event, see fig 9, col 18, lines 35-58**). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add the limitation detailed above as taught by Grant into the systems of Sleeper and Argawal because that would interrupt playback sequence of data in the event of failure or malfunction.

RESPONSE TO ARGUMENTS

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 20-39 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive rejection.

REMARKS

6. In response to Applicant's newly added limitation wherein said and prompts a change in content of the multimedia entries on the customer display device. As indicated above, it is the Examiner believes that Grant discloses this limitation in fig 9a customer initiated ATM transaction which includes a CPU 52, a timer 148, and a trigger event (see., fig 4, col 9, lines 59-69, col 10, lines 1-21, **and for the trigger event, see fig 9, col 18, lines 35-58**). Applicant should note that during a trigger event, many

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events can happen, including suspension of the customer display or change in content of the multimedia entries on the customer display device.

Applicant maintains that even if the cited references were combined, the combination fails to describe "wherein the control unit is coupled to the customer display program module and includes an internal timer..... However, the Examiner respectfully disagrees with Applicant characterization of the prior art since Sleeper discloses these limitation in the abstract, col 1-col 6.

Sleeper fails to explicitly disclose the claimed limitation wherein said a sequence of multimedia entries of which the customer display program. However, Agarwal discloses a system/method for providing random access to a multimedia object over a network. The multimedia object comprises a multimedia file having a sequence of segments, and a table having an entry for each of a plurality of said segments (see., abstract, col 1-col 8). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add the limitation detailed above as taught by Agarwal into the system of Sleeper because this would ensure a smooth, uninterrupted playback sequence of data.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pierre E. Elisca whose telephone number is 571 272 6706. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 to 5:00. Hoteler.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Fischer can be reached on 571 272 6779. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/ Pierre E. Elisca/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3621